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**Subject:** Daily News Digest - Friday, May 3, 2013  
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**Attachments:** [R6 Daily News Digest 05-03-13.pdf](#)

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*(See attached file: R6 Daily News Digest 05-03-13.pdf)*

### **1 - At Texas fertilizer plant, a history of theft, tampering**

Reuters, 05/03/2013

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2013/05/03/usa-explosion-texas-idINDEE94202O20130503>

The Texas fertilizer plant that exploded two weeks ago, killing 14 people and injuring about 200, was a repeat target of theft by intruders who tampered with tanks and caused the release of toxic chemicals, police records reviewed by Reuters show

### **2 - Red River water condition gets mixed grades**

The Alexandria Daily Town Talk, 05/03/2013

<http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20130503/LIFESTYLE/305030008/Red-River-water-condition-gets-mixed-grades>

Whether or not Red River is a pure stream of water running to the Mississippi depends on whom you ask. If you talk to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality or the U.S. Geological Survey, it's doing pretty well as far as U.S. rivers go, with less siltation, only a touch of salinity and not much in the way of pollutants or harmful bacteria.

### **3 - EPA Proposes PM SIP Deadline Decree**

Inside EPA Weekly Report, 05/03/2013

<http://insideepa.com/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/menu-id-97.html#item1>

EPA is floating a settlement with environmentalists to resolve their suit faulting the agency for failing to decide by Clean Air Act-mandated deadlines on whether eight states' plans for meeting the 2006 fine particulate matter (PM2.5) air standard are adequate, with the proposed decree requiring final agency action on the plans by June 13.

### **4 - Democrats' Plant Safety Inquiries Seen Driving EPA Regulatory Changes**

Inside EPA Weekly Report, 05/02/2013

<http://insideepa.com/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/menu-id-97.html#item1>

Key House Democrats are urging President Obama to convene a blue ribbon panel to provide advice on ways to strengthen oversight of high-risk chemical facilities due to inadequate oversight by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), an effort that could bolster environmentalists' efforts to expand EPA oversight of the facilities.

### **5 - EPA's McCarthy Set For Senate Environment Panel Vote**

Inside EPA Weekly Report, 05/02/2013

<http://insideepa.com/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/menu-id-97.html#item1>

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA), chair of the environment committee, says her panel will vote May 9 on EPA air chief Gina McCarthy's nomination to be the next agency administrator, despite calls from GOP committee members to delay a vote until McCarthy addresses their push for agreements on new EPA "transparency" measures

### **6 - Environmental groups sue EPA over refinery emissions**

The Houston Chronicle, 05/02/2013

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Environmental-groups-sue-EPA-over-refinery-4484297.php>

Environmentalists have filed a lawsuit to force federal regulators to review the way they calculate emissions from petrochemical plants, oil refineries and other large industrial facilities.

#### **7 - Senate Passes Fracking Wastewater Pipelines Bill**

State Impact Texas, 05/02/2013

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/2013/05/02/senate-vote-on-fracking-wastewater-pipelines-drawing-near/>

SB 514, introduced by state Sen. Wendy Davis, D- Fort Worth, would expand the use of pipelines to transport oil and gas waste to disposal wells. The bill was designed to ease the strain tanker trucks transporting waste can cause on some roads.

#### **8 - Exxon pipeline in watershed prompts meeting — Exxon a no-show**

Arkansas Times, 05/02/2013

<http://www.arktimes.com/ArkansasBlog/archives/2013/05/02/exxon-pipeline-in-watershed-prompts-meeting-exxon-a-no-show>

Government officials and others came together today in Little Rock to discuss the ExxonMobil Pegasus pipeline, currently shut down on account of the Mayflower rupture, which runs through 13 miles of the Lake Maumelle watershed.

#### **9 - Sinkhole bills approved by Louisiana House**

New Orleans Times-Picayune, 05/02/2013

[http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/05/sinkhole\\_bills\\_approved\\_by\\_lou.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/05/sinkhole_bills_approved_by_lou.html)

The Louisiana House backed two bills Thursday (May 2) aimed at tightening restrictions around the state's salt domes and solution-mined caverns used to store hydrocarbons or hewn for salt in brine production.

#### **10 - Study Finds No Single Cause of Honeybee Deaths**

The New York Times, 05/02/2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/03/science/earth/government-study-cites-mix-of-factors-in-death-of-honeybees.html?\\_r=2&adxnnl=1&fb\\_source=message&adxnnlx=1367589947-Q6iHx1zPngFZINoOOneX3w](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/03/science/earth/government-study-cites-mix-of-factors-in-death-of-honeybees.html?_r=2&adxnnl=1&fb_source=message&adxnnlx=1367589947-Q6iHx1zPngFZINoOOneX3w)

The devastation of American honeybee colonies is the result of a complex stew of factors, including pesticides, parasites, poor nutrition and a lack of genetic diversity, according to a comprehensive federal study published on Thursday. The problems affect pollination of American agricultural products worth tens of billions of dollars a year.

#### **11 - Court to Hear Two Lawsuits Challenging Revisions to State Implementation Plans**

Daily Environment Report, 05/03/2013

[http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=30893499&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8d0y3e5&split=0](http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=30893499&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8d0y3e5&split=0)

A federal appeals court will hear oral arguments in two lawsuits May 7 challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to require states to update their air pollution plans to include greenhouse gas permitting provisions (Texas v. EPA, D.C. Cir., No. 10-1425, oral arguments 5/7/13; Utility Air Regulatory Group v. EPA, D.C. Cir., No. 11-1037, oral arguments 5/7/13).